

Bigfork Steering Committee Minutes
March 27, 2008
bigforksteering.org
(amended)

In attendance: Craig Wagner, Pat Wagner, Gary Ridderhoff, Edd Blackler, Alex Strickland, Chuck Gough, Elna Darrow, George Darrow, John Bourquin, Steve Zabaro, Bruce Solberg, Frank Landis, Leslie Budewitz, Sue Ostergard, Julie Spencer, Sue Hanson, Lamont Kincade

Chairman Craig Wagner called the meeting to order at 12:00

Agenda: The motion was made to adopt the agenda as emailed. (m/sc Zabaro/ Gough)
Passed unanimously

Minutes: The minutes were approved as emailed (m/sc.Ridderhoff/ Bourquin) Passed unanimously

Treasurer's Report: Pat Wagner read Chuck's report. We had 4 authorized expenditures of 250.00, 35.75, 5.00, 65.98. for committees, Resort Tax, Lake County Planning and Neighborhood Plan, giving us a new total of \$2812.44

Resort Tax Committee: Bruce Solberg stated he is in the final process of putting a power point presentation together to present to the BSC meeting within the month. Date to be determined. He gave a description of the different areas that will be discussed in the presentation. After he presents his findings Bruce feels that he should step down if the BSC decides to present this to the community.. There was also discussion with regard to Seeley Lake which has already passed the first stages in applying for a resort tax to help with funds for infrastructure and other needs in their community.

Lake County Planning: Leslie reported her last meeting was a very productive one. Sue Shannon from Lake County Planning Department attended, John Bourquin, Chairman from BLUAC, and Shelley Gonzales attended and explained the workings of the BLUAC advisory board to Sue. This was very helpful to Sue as there are no advisory boards in Lake County. We also learned from her how Lake County deals with planning issues which does differ somewhat from Flathead Lake County which was also very helpful. Our April Meetings will be April 4, 2008 and April 18, 2008 at Saddlhorn Discovery Tower. Leslie also wanted to point out the purpose of this committee is to establish an advisory committee or council that would work with Lake County Planning for Woods Bay and Ferndale. This committee is trying very hard to get out draft regulations for this advisory committee; they will need more public meetings this summer and they need much help from the Steering Committee and people in the Community. They will need help in getting out the draft regulations and identifying land uses for 1800 parcels of land. This was also done in 1993 when Bigfork developed their first plan. Also Leslie pointed out more funds will be needed for this, using both the steering committee and their own resources. Leslie also mentioned that Anne Moran from the DNRC had called and offered their Foresters for a presentation to the BSC on the health of your forest, setbacks and more. It was decided that since we had just had a presentation from Rick Trembeth on Firewise we would postpone this until our summer residents return. We also would like to hear if you want a daytime or evening meeting??

Bruce Solberg: Bruce Solberg then introduced Sue Ostergard who is a new resident and is working with the new owner of the bowling alley and a part time resident Arthur Lieberman. We welcomed her aboard.

Vision Committee: The Vision Committee is meeting on Monday April 7, 2008 at 12:00 at Saddlehorn Discovery Tower. They have gotten in touch with a Ned Cooney who will give a presentation on his expertise on helping non profit organizations in getting good results and being more efficient. He also mentioned the DNRC was proposing a sale of land that would take away a recreational area. Leslie Budewitz mentioned she had talked DNRC Planner Anne Moran about the proposed sale and summarized her understanding of the DNRC trust land program and the proposed sale.

Storm Water Committee: Sue Hanson, Chairman reported the first public meeting on the preliminary findings of the engineering firm Morrison-Maierle, Inc., will be held on April 1, at 7:00 p.m. at Community United Methodist Church 750 Electric Ave in Bigfork Montana (one block east of Bigfork High School) Written comments can be sent to Wm A. Buxton, PE., Morrison – Maierle, Inc., PO Box 8057, Kalispell, Montana 59904. This project is based on obtaining grants and it is necessary that we have as many letters on file as possible. Letters endorsing this project can be sent to Debbie Pierson, Flathead County Commissioners Office, 800S Main, Kalispell, or email dpierson@flathead.mt.gov. Part of the funding for our next our next grant will be for outreach and education and we need all the support we can get. We have also appealed to our state representatives and senators for federal help also. Our power lies in individual letters, form and blanket letters are just that but having individual letters on files is much more effective. We have a lot of work ahead of us,

Chairman's Report: Pat reported on an email she received from Vertical Media that they had linked our bigforksteering.org web site on their web site. They were also asking for us to link them on ours. I called Mike Callaghan, our webmaster, to get his advice. He advised me not to do so as they are a commercial website that creates regional directories for profit. A motion was made to have me write an email in return and stating a reason why we could not do that at this time. (m/sc R/Zabaro/Gough) Motion Passed.

Pat then reported that she had a request from Susan Hanson to add the Storm Water Committee to the web site. A motion was made that we add the Storm Water Advisory Committee (BSAC) to the web page. (m/sc Darrow/Gough) Motion Passed

Saddlehorn: Frank Landis said they were making good headway on getting the infrastructure completed for Phase one. The rock crushing will be finished in about a week. We have roughly 14,000 yards of gravel and saved 1200 dump truck trips back and forth. The crusher had little sound impact also. We have started recycling our rain water and trying to become a sustainable community as much as possible and trying to preserve the beauty of the area.

Bigfork Water and Sewer: The new lift station is almost done, Julie reported. They still have some lines to hook up. They are intending to be done by the time Art Walk is held on May 10, 2008

Old Business: Chuck mentioned the petition for people to sign supporting the Bigfork Neighborhood Plan, We have plenty of them.

New Business: Bruce Solberg mentioned that he held a meeting in the Chamber on Parking with representatives representing CFBB, BSC, BLUAC, Chamber of Commerce. There is nothing new as this time. A couple of ideas came up but the have to be checked

with Bigfork Fire and the county road department. This has been an on going problem for years and years. Maybe some day..... There are still some options to explore.

Announcements: Please attend the Public Meeting on Storm Water. This is a very important subject and the beauty and health of our Flathead Lake depends on the storm water issue. April 1, 2008, 7:00 pm at Community United Methodist Church 750 Electric Ave. Bigfork.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:06

Pat Wagner, Secretary